

Roadmap on the Resolution of the National Historical Dispute in Cameroon

Building a Sovereign Confederal Nation fully viable on World Stage

The Patriotic Alliance Manifesto

Cameroon at the crossroads of dislocation.

Cameroon is currently at the brink of dislocation. There is an ominous shadow of dislocation threatening the entire nation. In an Act of Declaration of war against the people of both the Northwest and the Southwest Regions, the Cameroon President together with some few proponents to his views have, by so doing, opened a Pandora's box, the likes, the depths and contents of which are unprecedented and, the outcomes and ensuing spoils of which are, by and large, alarmingly unpredictable. Each war declared always comes with, abides by and follows up on its own logic. And whatever the outcome will be for this one in particular, President Paul Biya will have to bear full responsibility over his actions as well as its ultimate consequences on his own fellow-men living in those designated parts of the country and eventually on the entire nation at large. The conundrum has created quite a gloomy situation whereby officers of the Cameroon National Army are faced with the dilemma of having to choose, at immensurable cost to human life, between saving an ailing political regime that only serves the interests of a handful of selected and privileged individuals allied with certain foreign powers and their overall capacity at demonstrating a certain degree of responsibility and dignity in the overall interest of an entire nation.

We cannot and should not tolerate such a grievous threat to our homeland security. Also, we cannot accept a situation that would perturb the unity that is supposed to reign within the members of our Armed Forces. In these prevailing circumstances, it therefore becomes incumbent upon ordinary citizens to defy unjust laws and to resist any such moves with utmost might so that the higher good of the nation can be salvaged and preserved. In the face of such uncharted waters, cooler heads will be of essence and must prevail. That call for an individual sense of belonging and mutual dependence on one another must therefore take center-stage and be translated into a massive mobilization of all active forces of the nation stumping together in the form of a massive national class action crusade driven and guided by the nationalistic gut feelings of every individual. The roadmap for such a movement must include any or all of the following:

The Head of State must be brought to the understanding that the only viable, acceptable and plausible solution available to him is an immediate (that is, without due delay) and unconditional call

to an end to the ongoing war that he has officially declared against the people of the above regions; a war that has already ravaged so much life and property. In doing so, his own persona, both in grandeur and prestige will see a face-lift; in fact, to persist in his current line of thought ought not to be considered again..

An Inclusive National Dialogue (IND) must be initiated immediately with participation open to all national political, economic and social forces, including the militants currently waging the crusade for an independent “Ambazonia”. The main purpose of such a dialogue will be to define and lay an institutional framework in view of creating a firm foundation for national and social cohesion, unity as well as the integrity of national sovereignty. Its conclusions must also define the procedures for the creation of a Constituent Assembly in charge of drafting new fundamental laws of the land (constitution); a Constituent Assembly which must then be convened.

Core Goal: Our short and long term goal is to provide sufficient self-sustainability in the ability of Cameroonians to foster for themselves the notion of broad self-determination and to be able to organize themselves into meaningful wholes, be them political, economic or social. In other words, provide the instruments necessary for Cameroonians to be fully sovereign. Instruments which in essence constitute the unconditional prerequisites for any respectable nation to be able to build for itself sufficient leverage so it can negotiate and be duly recognized on world stage. Sufficient leverage such that, that nation can have a resounding voice, not only in the defense of a Cameroon position in world affairs and in the interest of its citizens but also in the interest of other areas of planetary and world issues and challenges affecting the entire comity of nations and humanity today.

Citizens’ legitimate rights for insubordination and resistance against the remnants of (ipso facto) Colonial Rule and Order. This is a universal human right:

In April of 1948 the Union des Population du Cameroun (UPC), in their plight for the total emancipation of Cameroun from the grips and claws of Colonial rule, summarily used the following terms to outline its principal objectives: reunification, independence and the seeking of higher living standards for its populations. These were the three inter-related items on their main agenda. This UPC initiative saw very little advance due to the relentless squashing by the French colonial army. Then as independence (legally speaking) swept the land as of 1960, a new form of colonialism (neo-colonialism) became the new national order. In this light, reunification rapidly became an instrument of annexation of the former British mandated territory by the former French mandated territory, the aftermath of which was a process of subjugation, domination and the repression of the aspirations of a people seeking a better life for themselves. Eventually these repressive attitudes took permanent root and spread all over the entire national territory. This summarily describes in a nut shell a well-documented historical reality.

Today, the clamoring sounds and outcry of our fellow citizens of both the Northwest and Southwest regions are primarily due to the hyper centralization of State power in Yaounde, and the adverse and negative effects that such rule bears on the quality of life of Cameroonians. The defiance by victims, thereof, is simply the end result of a fundamental and long-standing historical dispute between the Cameroonian people and French Colonial Order, exacerbated by the sordid and progressive appellation mutation of the same ruling entity from UC-UNC-CPDM as it came into power as of 1960. This recurrent dispute for close to 50 years today has been demonstrably carried out in varied forms by even eminent members of the UNC-CPDM regime. However, in which way this has occurred in the past, things have never come this close to the threat it is posing today on national unity. Incidentally, the bigger picture was always centered at embracing the ideology that had initially been spearheaded by Ruben UM NYOBE. An ideology which was geared towards national unity, national sovereignty, human development as well as the seeking of a better life for the Cameroon people. However, during the popular uprisings of May 1955, the French colonial powers answered these popular and legitimate outcries with deeply unsettling practices and even declared war on those populations who were sympathizers of the UPC. Today (2017/2018), history is repeating itself – the neo-colonial power of Yaounde is answering with deeply unsettling practices and even declaring war on the populations of both the Northwest and Southwestern Regions, all in an effort to squash any attempt, whatsoever, of any generalized and legitimate uprising and by so doing, render the populations submissive. Another case scenario would be for the regime to use these tactics as a ploy to creating an armed insurrection. The similarities as well as the parallels between what happened over five decades ago and what is taking place right now are particularly striking, to say the least.

To put an end to the war in the Northwest and Southwest Regions, without delay and without conditionalities.... Also to snap out of sheer denial.

For a viable future of our nation, it is particularly of essence for any responsible political program to contextualize at the forefront of its home and core agenda and platform, the historical perspective and reality that has been succinctly but so clearly described and time-lined above. Solutions to solving the “Anglophone problem” are being inadequately worded, as if to say there were no also a “Francophone problem”. The problem is primarily that which pertains to the annexation of West Cameroon by East Cameroon, and then the adverse effects this has had on the annexed populations, and then the ensuing and predictable and logical reaction of the annexed. The insubordination and legitimate popular uprisings and resistance posed by those of the Northwest and Southwest, who today are non-other than the front-liners of a much wider outcry, are not that much deeply rooted in a firm and willing desire to threaten national unity – at least at the onset. Ever since 1972 and throughout the entire national territory, the self-inflicting wound as a result of a centralized power of government has totally wrecked and deprived all of the other branches of public service of the power of decision making and taking action required to satisfy the immediate needs of the populations. All those powers have been centralized and concentrated in Yaounde. The inefficiency and the dangers of such a governing model as in “Paris et le désert français” are living proof. This is especially true of our compatriots of the Northwest and the Southwest Regions who for long had already experienced and enjoyed the benefits of a different model of governance during trusteeship rule and in the

Federal Republic of West Cameroon in notch areas such as “The Independent Function-ability” of the Public Service Commission which was in charge of personnel nominations, promotions and career management of those in public office of their Federated entity; the functioning of the Independent Electoral Commission in charge of organizing and arbitrating the elections of Executive and Legislative members, an independent judiciary etc.

The current threat to dislocate the nation is by no means coming as a result of insubordination or of popular uprising and legitimate resistance. On the contrary, such a defiance by the population is perfectly aligned with the three point objectives still valid today as was then when they were drafted by the founding members of UPC. The way in which the “Anglophone problem” is being coined today is simply the distorted way in which the centralized power in Yaounde vehemently wants to interpret the situation and the logic behind their so called “appropriate response”: their absolute state of denial of historical reality and facts has further been exacerbated by the launching of a war against the population.

The building of a general consensus around the ability for the sovereign people of Cameroon to self-organize as well as that for the fostering of political, economic and social self- determination; those are the various tools with which we must be equipped and that will ultimately provide the means that will justify the end with regard to putting into place a sovereign and viable nation.

National unity is none other than the end product of sound political action by the State, guided by a resolute and constant zeal clearly geared towards national cohesion. Without national cohesion, the core notion of “community of citizens” becomes completely void and practically without substance. From that point on, using the appellation “national unity” simply becomes a tactical political ploy used to manipulate both public opinion and the population. And today, even the most absurd of assertions is also fast taking center-stage – in fact, showing a certain degree of irresponsibility at its extreme: “National Unity” is being sang from all roof tops by a political regime in concert with its handful of supporters from all walks of life to the point where they have succeeded in coining the term “terrorists” to describe those leaders waging a legitimate crusade against a broken system and also the words “accomplices to these terrorist” to describe the rest of the population who happen to live in the same geographic territories as their leaders of the movement. We must put an immediate end to this scourge of blind insanity which is none other than a way of simplistically avoiding the croaks of the problem from a historical and profound perspective. We must engage in a rebuilding process that should encompass the putting into place of a viable democratic institutional national order aimed at building a general consensus around the ability for the sovereign people of Cameroon to self-organize as well as to improve upon their individual skills of self-determination; be them, political, economic and social; that is, all the various means must be equipped with what will permit us to ultimately justify the end with regard to putting into place a sovereign and viable nation.

WE, means ALL Cameroon citizens, be those living in Cameroon, be those of and in the diaspora; be those affiliated or not to any political party whatsoever, regardless of one's social status (students, economic operators, social workers, retired and senior citizens, the underprivileged etc.....); be those in either the public or private sectors regardless of their levels of hierarchy. WE, means all those Cameroonians in all walks of life; all those working in diplomatic circles and all other consular services; all those working in any kind of associations or non-governmental services or not etc. WE, also includes any private person as well as those close collaborators of President Paul Biya, that is, his real friends. All these forces called to organized in even a thousand ways but towards one solitary objective ONLY: to bring the President of the Republic to the understanding that he has ONLY ONE WAY OUT of the current impasse – that is to order an immediate stop to the war he has declared against the people of the Northwest and the Southwest Regions of Cameroon and that by doing so, he will not only augment his own persona both in grandeur and prestige but will also elevate the reigns of his office to that of the respect it deserves.

It is only by organizing and carrying out such a massive and cross-party-line movement that we can put an end to the senseless bloodshed that is taking place in the western part of the country – and only then would we be in a comfortable position to come up with a comprehensive platform in within the framework of an Inclusive National Dialogue (IND). As stated earlier in our Patriotic Alliance Charter document, the IND will focus on the following three major areas:

To define and lay out an institutional framework in view of creating a firm foundation for national social cohesion, unity as well as the integrity of national sovereignty.

To define the procedures for the creation of a Constituent Assembly in charge of drafting new fundamental laws of the land (constitution) and then to convene that Constituent Assembly.

To name a transitional government in charge of ensuring the continuity of State until the new institutions become operational.

Once we will arrive at this final stage, the main mission for the clamoring and urgent call to action of the Patriotic Alliance would have been met and accomplished.

The General Coordination of the Patriotic Alliance

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